

TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 6:39pm. Selectmen present were James McIlroy, Janet Smith, and Roberta Gerkin. Others present were Police Chief Art Reed, Win Fream for the Library, Steve Shope for the Conservation Commission, Paul St. Hilaire of Bestway Disposal Services, and Reuben Hull, Town Planner.

Chief Reed informed the Board that the contractors will finish paving the bridge this week (depending on the weather) and will start the road painting next week.

Roland Gosselin asked that the penalty on his tax bill be abated. After discussion, James made a motion to pre-approve the refund upon receipt of a completed abatement form from Mr. Gosselin. It was seconded by Janet and all were in favor.

The Board received a letter from Jones & Beach Engineers, Inc. asking that the Town “conditionally” accept as town roads Heath Drive and Scanlon Way. James made a motion to deny the request, it was seconded by Roberta and all were in favor. James asked Reuben Hull to call Jones & Beach advising them of the denial and to advise them of other routes available to allow occupancy of the new dwellings.

Win Fream advised the Board that he is obtaining quotes for the Library for a security system. The quotes will be for police protection only. The Library Budget Request should be ready for the Selectmen in early December.

Steve Shope of the Conservation Commission was in to discuss the legal fees for the Piscassic Greenway Project. James stated that most of the large items have been completed at this point with a few small items remaining and that the legal bill is currently as projected. Steve would like to get an estimate from Fran Lane for the remaining legal work to be done and wanted the support of the Board. There was no objection by the Board. Steve will keep the Board informed of the results.

Paul St. Hilaire of Bestway Disposal Services was in to discuss their request for a fuel surcharge to the Town. Diesel fuel prices have increased 80% in the last two years. (No provision was made in the three year contract for a surcharge.) Paul explained that the surcharge would have to be approved by Newfields, Newmarket, and Stratham for it to go into effect. He suggested that the Selectmen speak with the other two towns and make a decision. James reminded Paul that we cannot spend money that has not been allocated by the Town Budget.

Reuben Hull advised the Board of the Zoning Amendments and indicated that the January Public Meeting could be the final Public Hearing for these changes:

1. A delay in discussion for any re-zoning in the Village for one year.

2. Zoning ordinance and Business Modification overlay for the Commercial Zone on Route 108.
3. Tweaking the language on cluster housing and making open space mandatory for any subdivision 4 lots or more.
4. Changing the wetlands buffer from 75 feet to 100 feet and clarify what is allowed in the wetlands buffer.

The Planning Board Budget will include \$3,000. for flat file cabinets and \$3,000. for a Design Charrette. The Design Charrette involves a team coming to Newfields for a weekend to look over a particular site and designing a Development Plan for that site. This type of project usually costs \$30,000. to \$40,000. However, when a Town is chosen for this project, the labor is donated and the \$3,000. fee is for the printing of the plans and report only. Reuben will complete the application so that Newfields may be considered for this project.

The Planning Board is reviewing the Master Plan. It was noted that the Street Design Standards/Ordinances are changing.

Pride Development has submitted a revised plan for a Cumberland Farms/Gas Station.

The addition of expiration dates to Variances was discussed. It was decided that this would be a good idea.

Chief Reed advised that the Department will start enforcing the Winter Parking Ban tonight. The fine is currently \$7.00. The Selectmen have the option of increasing the fine.

Ray Buxton asked if the Town would accept a new placard for the Bell Cover. The placard would be donated to the Town. The Selectmen would like to accept the donation of a placard subject to review for appearance and content.

James made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2005 meeting. Janet seconded. The motion was passed with Roberta abstaining.

Nancy was asked to contact Sam Taylor for an updated estimate on items 1 – 5 on the ADA Compliance List. Sam will try to get a new estimate to us by early next week.

James asked Nancy to fax a letter to Brian Hart stating the Town supports the Conservation Easement on the 329 acre Piscassic Greenway.

At 9:44pm James made a motion to adjourn, Roberta seconded the motion. The motion was passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer